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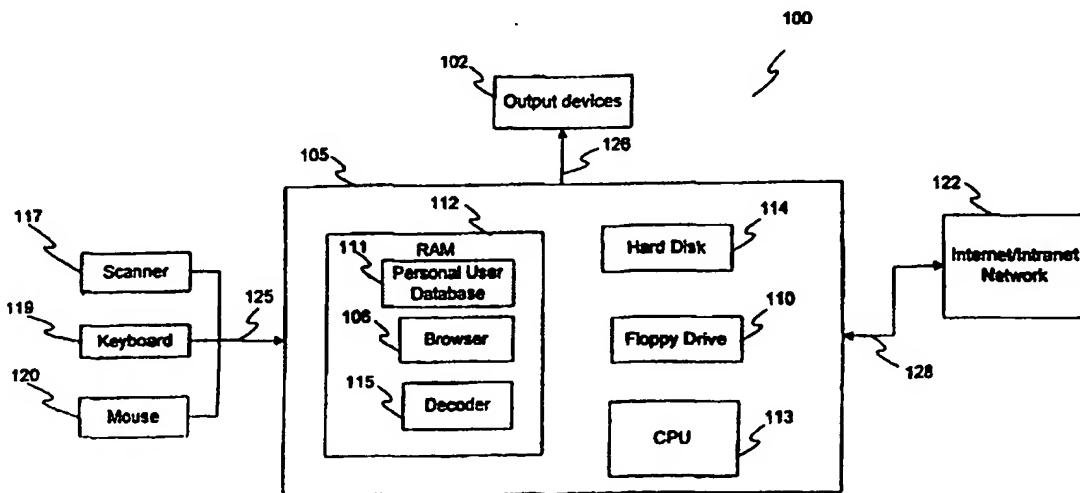


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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM A COMPUTER NETWORK USING A SCANNER AND BROWSER



(57) Abstract

A computer (105) having a web browser (106) is coupled to a bar code reader (117) and used for accessing the internet and/or intranet (122). The bar code reader reads a bar code that contains a user resource locator (URL) address to a specified web page. A direct software program and menu software program is used with the web browser to access information corresponding to the URL address. The bar code may contain other information such as browser instructions and/or software instructions. Products may likewise be registered using user personal data. Finally, customized web pages targeted to specific users may also be created using the web browser and scanned bar code data.